



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney's Docket No.: 101195-18

C14/C  
MAY 11 2001  
5-19-01

Examiner : A. Chakrabarti  
Group Art Unit : 1655  
Applicant(s) : Timo Hillebrand et al.  
Serial No. : 09/454,740  
Filed : December 6, 1999  
For : Formulations and method for isolating  
nucleic acids from optional complex  
starting materials and subsequent  
complex gene analysis

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the official action dated December 20,  
2000, please amend the above-referenced application as  
follows:

In the claims:

Please see the attached sheet for the marked up and  
clean versions of the claims showing changes.

Please cancel claim 6.